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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 09/897,796  
Art Unit: 1762  
Inventors: Matthew M. Seabaugh *et al.*  
Filed: July 2, 2001  
For: CERAMIC ELECTROLYTE COATING METHODS  
Attorney Docket No.: 3995591-132357

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The Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement for the above-identified application is submitted pursuant to the obligation of 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98. A copy of each document listed on the accompanying modified Form PTO-1449 is enclosed.

The submission of any document enclosed herewith which is not a statutory bar is not an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants reserve the right to take any appropriate action to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document that is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

Applicants request that the Examiner consider the listed documents during the examination of this application and make them of record therein. Applicants further request that an initialed copy of modified Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.

Applicants believe that this document is being submitted before the mailing date of the first office action on the merits, and thus, no fee is required. No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application<sup>1</sup> and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than 3 months prior to the filing of this statement. Thus, no fee is required even if a first office action on the merits of this application has been mailed on a date earlier than the filing date of this document.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 3, 2003

By:   
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<sup>1</sup> All of the items of information contained in this information disclosure statement were cited in the International Search Report of the counterpart PCT application, No. PCT/US02/20831.